to suspend all nuclear testing for a period of 12 months, pending the conclusion of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, and offered their good offices to facilitate effective verification of such a moratorium.

(b) Negotiations on the subject at the Conference on Disarmament at Geneva have not progress because of basic differences in the approach of various countries.

Foreign Christian Plan to convert Hindus

389. SHRI MUKHTAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the 'Organiser' of the 12th January, 1986 under the heading "Foreign Christian Plan to convert the Hindus" of India;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Religion is a matter of individual conscience. The Constitution gives every citizen the right to profess, practise and propagate his religion as long as it does not impings upon public order, morality and health.

Brain drain of scientists, physicians and engineers

390. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report which appeared in the 'Blitz' of 14th December, 1985 wherein it has been stated that there has been a large scale brain drain of scientists, physicians and engineers from this country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have completely failed to stop brain drain from India as the intellectuals are getting higher remuneration and other facilities in foreign countries; and

(c) what measures are proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A number of measures have been adopted to induce Indian Scientists and Technologists to work in the country. Some of these are:

(i) Outlays for Science & Technology have been increased in the successive Five Year Plans.

(ii) A number of schemes have been initiated for recognising talented young scientists and providing them appropriate research facilities. Schemes are also being implemented to provide assistance to scientists and technologists for attending international conferences and especially enabling younger scientists to attend specialised training programmes outside India.

(iii) Fellowship and Associateship are being provided alongwith appropriate facilities.

(iv) Programmes have been launched through which 'core' groups of scientists are created in the country with all necessary modern facilities required for pursuing research in new and frontier areas of science. Sophisticated Instruments are being provided through the mechanism of Regional Sophisticated Instrumentation Centres to provide challenging job opportunities to scientists and technologists.